

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 01142 221213 Z

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 NEA-06 PM-03 IO-03

L-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00

RSR-01 /056 W

----- 129231

P R 221000 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6584

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY QPTO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 1142

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS: IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE

TAGS: PFOR, TZ, LY, UG, SU, PINS

SUBJ: PLOT TO FREE BSO TERRORISTS AND OVERTHROW NIMAIRI

NOUAKCHOTT FOR AF/ N BLAKE

1. FONMIN UNDERSEC FADL OBEID TELEPHONED CHARGE AT MIDNIGHT MAY 21 AND ASKED HIM CALL AT MINISTRY. UPON ARRIVAL, OBEID ASKED CHARGE FOR SUMMARY OF INFO AVAILABLE USG ON PROPOSED PLOT. CHARGE REITERATED SUBSTANCE PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED TO GOS SECURITY ORGANIZATION STRESSING USG IS CHANNEL AND NOT SOURCE. CHARGE ALSO NOTED INFO STEMMED FROM INTER-MEDIARY OF OBOTE, BUT LATTER HAD BEEN WILLING BE IDENTIFIED AS SOURCE.

2. OBEID COMMENTED HE HAD RECOGNIZED IMMEDIATELY FROM REPORTS HE RECEIVING FROM GOS POSTS ABROAD THAT USG NOT ORIGINAL SOURCE OF INFO. HE HAD RECEIVED CABLE FROM FONMIN MANSOUR KHALID (WHO HAD BEEN BRIEFED BY TANGOVN FONMIN AT OAU MEETING IN ADDIS ABABA

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PAGE 02 KHARTO 01142 221213 Z

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AND THE OUTLINE COINCIDED WITH OURS (WITH SOME ADDITIONAL DETAILS,. 3. G. NUMBER OF PALESTINIANS REPORTEDLY INVOLVED APPRX 500 AND AMIN " DECIDED" NOT TO COMMIT REGULAR TROOPS). OBEID COMMENTED INFO SEEMED WEAK, BUT GOS COULD " NOT TAKE CHANCES" AND WAS ATTEMPTING OBTAIN INDEPENDENT CONFIRMATION.

3. DURING COURSE DISCUSSION, OBEID NOTED GOS HAD RECEIVED EARLIER INTELLIGENCE THAT LARG WAS PLANNING SOME OPERATION AGAINST SUDAN, THAT PALESTINIANS HAD AN INTEREST IN " PULLING SOMETHING" AND THAT SEVERAL EX- GOS OFFICIALS (SUCH AS EX- RCC MEMBERS MAMOUN ABU- ZAID AND KHALIL HASSAN ABBAS (AS WELL AS EX- MINISTER OF TREASURY HALIM) WERE NOW IN LIBYA AND EGYPT. HE FORESAW LITTLE ADVANTAGE TO ANY MILITARY PENETRATION INTO SOUTH, BUT NOTED PARACHUTE DROP INTO KHARTOUM AIRPORT COULD BE SUCCESSFUL IF SOME GOS ARMY UNITS EITHER SUPPORTED THEM OR NEUTRALIZED LOYAL UNITS.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH NO VISIBLE SIGNS OF INCREASED GOS ALERTNESS HAVE YET BEEN NOTICED, GOS IS EVIDENTLY TAKING THREAT SERIOUSLY (PARTICULARLY AFTER RECEIVING FONMIN CABLE). ALTHOUGH CERTAIN AMOUNT OF ARMY DISGRUNTLEMENT EXISTS, THE OVERT EXTERIOR MILITARY INTERVENTION CONTEMPLATED IS THE KIND WHICH WOULD MOST STIMULATE A STRONG NATIONALISTIC SUDANESE REACTION FAVORING NIMAIRI.
FRITTS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: PINS, LY, SU, TZ, UG
To: ADDIS ABABA
AF
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SECSTATE WASHDC
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